

BLM Tightens Controls On Pacific Yew Harvests

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RIGHTRIDER

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Responding to an urgent humanitarian need for the cancer-fighting chemical taxol, the BLM has acted quickly to tighten harvest controls for the Pacific yew, whose bark contains the life-saving drug.

"I consider this a top priority for the BLM," said Director Cy Jamison. "Wasting this resource, for any reason, will not be tolerated."

Taxol has been found effective in the treatment of ovarian cancer and may also prove effective in treating other forms of the disease.

In preparation for this spring's Pacific yew bark harvesting season, the BLM has instituted new operational guidelines, stricter policies, tougher law enforcement, and a number of agreements being negotiated with other federal agencies and private entities.

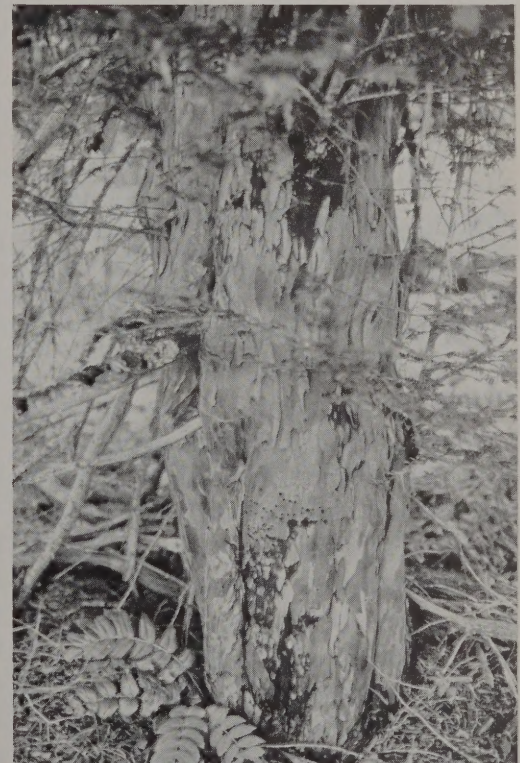
Pacific yew trees grow in Northwest forests managed by the BLM, particularly in western Oregon, northern California and Idaho. Currently, BLM resource managers are launching onsite operations to sustain the species, protect it from theft, and ensure that as much bark as possible is harvested to produce the anti-cancer drug taxol. In addition, BLM foresters are providing additional taxol by carefully searching areas designated for prescribed fire to ensure all yew is harvested prior to burning.

"Our rangers and law enforcement agents will be out in force to see that there is no waste and that poaching and theft are stopped," said BLM Oregon/Washington State Director Dean Bibles.

Tight controls will require that bark be taken from yew trunks and branches meeting minimum size guidelines, leaving some bark on the trunk for regeneration. BLM employees will weigh yew bark harvested by permit, and BLM contract administrators will be in the field daily to monitor the quantity and location of harvests and the credentials of harvesters.

"This increased presence in the field will ensure that harvesters adhere

continued



The BLM is tightening controls over Pacific yew bark harvests in light of the increased demand for taxol, an anti-cancer drug produced from yew bark.



Scientists are studying methods to extract taxol from yew needles.

to the strict standards we have set," explained BLM Oregon/Washington's Pacific yew program coordinator Kent Tresidder.

To prevent theft of yew bark, BLM rangers have stepped up patrols, keeping an eye out for bark thieves around the clock. BLM Oregon/Washington Chief of Law Enforcement Lynell Schalk points to the wasteful harvest methods commonly used by thieves, saying, "Not only are they stealing from the public lands, they are in effect stealing the life-saving taxol from the cancer patients who need it." She added that thieves will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

Interim Conservation Guidelines Developed

The Forest Service and the BLM are currently working on Pacific yew interim conservation guidelines to be followed until the Pacific yew Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is completed in the fall of 1992. The Forest Service has the lead role on the EIS, with the BLM and the Food and

Drug Administration serving as cooperators.

"The EIS will analyze the effects of yew collection on the environment," explained Tresidder. "We will consider the effects of harvest on regeneration of Pacific yew, its genetic diversity, and its place in forest ecosystems." He added they are accepting public comments on the EIS.

A BLM task force is also encouraging public involvement as they develop the comprehensive Pacific yew strategy mandated by Congress in the 1992 Interior Appropriations Act. The task force expects to have a draft completed in June, with a final document in October.

Inventories Will Show Yew Occurrence

The BLM is also conducting an intensive Pacific yew inventory, which is expected to be completed in August 1992. Combining information from BLM inventories with Forest Service data will provide the first complete picture of Pacific yew occurrence and distribution on public lands. The inventory will also look at other species in the ecosystem. "Our goal is to understand the web of life that supports the yew and manage to sustain the ecosystem as a whole," said Tresidder.

BLM Scientists Study Regeneration

In addition to sustaining ecosystems, the BLM is studying ways in which the tree regenerates itself. BLM plant pathologists and silviculturists are experimenting with techniques for speeding seed germination, propagating the tree through rooted cuttings, and transplanting trees from the wild. Long-term studies might lead to development of yew trees that are genetically superior in their production of taxol, their resistance to disease or

their growth rate. Although Pacific yew plantations might prove a practical solution to increased demand in the future, the BLM would not consider that a substitute for ecosystem management of the wild native species, according to Bibbes.

Taxol—One of Nature's Miracles

"The benefits of taxol look more and more promising every day. We can all be proud of our part in providing this vital resource to the American people."

—Cy Jamison

Taxol has been described by the National Cancer Institute (NCI) as "the most promising anti-cancer agent discovered in the last decade." Currently the most abundant source of taxol is the bark of the Pacific yew, a tree that grows in Northwest forests. Researchers at several locations are working on methods to synthetically produce the substance, and some believe that synthetic taxol could be available in less than 5 years. Methods to extract the substance from other species of yew, and from yew needles, are also being investigated.

Last year, over 825,000 pounds of Pacific yew bark was gathered from BLM and Forest Service lands for Bristol-Myers Squibb Company, working under a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement with NCI and under agreements with the BLM and Forest Service. This is enough to produce about 27 kilograms of the drug, which will treat more than 12,000 patients.

In 1992, at least that much will be needed for clinical trials and to provide treatment on a compassionate basis to ovarian cancer patients. Once the Food and Drug Administration

approves the drug, demand will be much higher. Thus, alternative and renewable sources for the drug are essential. Potential sources include synthetic production, plant tissue

culture, and horticultural approaches. In the meantime, the BLM and Forest Service will be providing the bulk of the needed substance for clinical trials and research. ■

How much does it take?

Here is a rough calculation, according to the National Cancer Institute:

- 30,000 pounds of bark will produce 1 kilogram (or 1,000 grams) of drug.
- 30 pounds of bark will thus produce 1 gram of drug.
- Each patient needs about 2 grams for treatment.
- Each patient therefore requires 60 pounds of bark.
- A mature tree will yield about 20 pounds of bark.
- Thus, about 3 trees are required per patient (actual number may vary according to tree size).

“BLM 2015” Plan Unveiled Jamison Announces Move to Two-Tiered Organization

Calling a need to update the BLM to meet new challenges over the next 25 years, Director Cy Jamison announced a field office reorganization plan April 27 which, among other changes, calls for a two-tiered rather than the current three-tiered management structure.

“A streamlined organization will help us more effectively carry out our mission and serve public land users and visitors over the next 25 years—to the year 2015,” he said. “Coupled with new recruitment efforts and enhanced job opportunities for current employees, this is part of a broad effort to revitalize the organization from top to bottom.”

Calling the plan “BLM-2015,” Jamison said the approach was worked out at a Bureau Management Team (BMT) meeting held in Phoenix April 21 - 22. He outlined several guiding principles which will be followed throughout the process:

1. The BLM will develop a two-tiered organizational structure. Any exceptions to this will be based on proven superior effectiveness and efficiency.
2. A BLM office will be maintained at each current location and all state offices will be maintained in their current locations. Additional office locations will be considered, but no location will have offices at more than one BLM organizational level, with the exception of state offices and the BLM's Service, Training, and Fire Centers.
3. Organizational changes will not require changes in resource management plans or planning unit boundaries.
4. Areas of duplicated effort will be eliminated.
5. Each and every BLM employee will be assured of a job opportunity.
6. Employee input is encouraged, and employee concerns and interests will

Pacific Yew Conference Planned for August

The BLM, Forest Service, Oregon State University and the National Cancer Institute will host a national conference on the Pacific yew August 3-5 at Oregon State University in Corvallis. The conference will provide a forum for sharing information among natural resource managers, health professionals, interest groups, researchers, and others concerned about the Pacific yew and taxol production. Both general and technical sessions and a one-day field trip will be offered. Call Tony Gwinn at OSU (503) 737-2668 for more information. ■

be taken into consideration throughout this process.

7. Employees will be informed of decisions and actions through a new BLM 2015 bulletin, videos and employee meetings.

“BLM 2015” is part of the BLM's streamlining effort started in 1991 with the transfer of about 200 Washington Office positions to state and field offices closer to the resources. The timing was accelerated as a result of a recent report by the Interior Department's Inspector General that found the BLM's three-tiered management structure to be inefficient.

The Washington Office is now working with information submitted by the states to develop an organizational model for the change, expected to be issued May 22. Using this, the state directors will incorporate employee suggestions and submit state restructuring proposals to the Washington Office by mid-July.

The BMT will meet again in August to discuss the proposals. An approved plan is expected by October. Implementation should begin in about a year, and be completed in about 5 years. ■

Alternative Fuels Program — It's a Go!

To encourage the use of alternative fuels and eventually reduce our dependence on foreign oil, Interior Secretary Manuel Lujan recently set a goal of placing at least 100 compressed natural gas (CNG) vehicles in the Department's fleet by the end of 1992.

"The Interior Department plays a major conservation role in the federal government, and it is up to us to show there are many efficient and practical ways to protect our environment and conserve our precious energy sources," Lujan said in making the announcement.

In January, the Department took delivery of the first CNG powered van, supplied by the General Services Administration (GSA). It was immediately whisked to the White House, where it was ceremoniously taken for a test drive by Lujan's boss, President Bush. The performance was deemed a "great success" by the President, and the program was officially launched.

CNG is increasingly becoming the alternative fuel of choice. Natural gas burns cleanly, causing little or no pollution; is abundant in the United States and therefore inexpensive; and has a high octane rating. The most

significant problem—to be worked out over time—is on the dispensing side. At this time, there is limited availability of refueling sites.

"The federal government is the seed—setting an example and helping the whole program grow by supplying this early demand."

—Bob Donelson,
BLM Nevada State Office

BLM Giving it a Go

But in more and more areas, CNG vehicles will work. *Inside Track* talked to a few BLMers who intend to prove its practicality and dispel the myth that alternative fuels are not worth the trouble.

"When people think of alternative fuels, a lot of them are thinking about the propane and gas mixtures of the early 1980s. CNG is nothing like that," says Ron Giles of BLM's Rock Springs, Wyo., District. Giles, assistant district manager for administration, is working to convert (or retrofit) eight vehicles to CNG,

including a Ford Bronco, Chevy pick-up, Blazer, and two utility trucks. In his case, the driving range will increase, as retrofitted vehicles have tanks for both fuels and can therefore run on either petroleum or CNG. "Wyoming has an abundance of natural gas," explained

Giles. "It's the cleanest burning alternative right now, and local gas companies are pushing it. We have the refueling site here, so it just makes sense to try it." Giles adds that his office also expects to receive a CNG pick-up from GSA in July, adding that if the CNG program works well in Rock Springs, other BLM offices will probably follow suit when refueling sites become more abundant.

Bob Donelson, chief of administrative services for the Nevada State Office, agrees. He says Reno will be getting two of the new GSA vehicles this spring, and the Las Vegas District Office will be getting another two. "The infrastructure is the key. When that is developed, more and more people will be able to use CNG vehicles. But for that to happen, there has to be some demand. The federal government is the seed—setting an example and helping the whole program grow by supplying this early demand."

The BLM's New Mexico State Office will be increasing this early demand if their request for 13 of the GSA vehicles is approved, according to Supervisory Property Management Specialist Terri Barry. "New Mexico is considered the major producer of natural gas from a federal standpoint. Of course we have a lot of interest in it. Our primary interest is the environmental factor," she notes. "It's a clean fuel, and it actually results in fewer maintenance costs." Barry explains for example that spark plugs and exhaust systems last a lot longer with natural gas and that less frequent oil changes mean less ground pollution from used oil. "And vast improvements have been made in safety features," she says. "Tanks have been reinforced to the point where a stick of dynamite exploded outside the tank will not ignite the gas." (In fact, according to Princeton University

continued



President Bush declares the performance a "great success" after test driving the first CNG-powered van delivered by the GSA to Interior Secretary Manuel Lujan in January.

(photo by Tami Heilemann, DOI)



"Natural gas is nothing if not renewable" says Durbin. He quips that the digestive track of one cow produces about 24 cubic feet of methane per day—enough to power a typical passenger car for 6 miles.

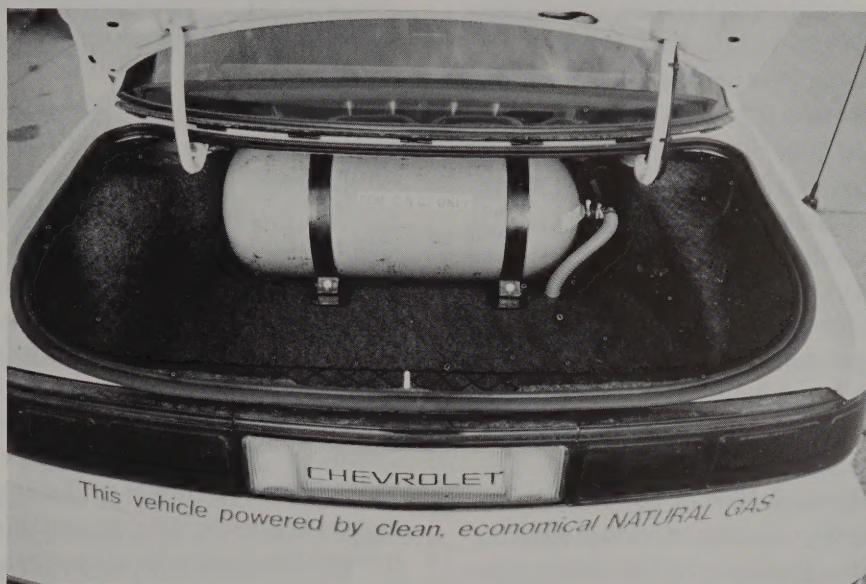
Professor Enoch Durbin, natural gas is the safest of all fuels. In 50 years of Italian experience, he says, there has never been a fire in a natural gas fueled car.)

Barry credits local gas companies and recent state legislation mandating refueling sites with making natural gas

vehicles feasible in New Mexico. She also hopes that more BLM offices will help get the national program off the ground, because "it's so good for the environment." For more informa-

tion on the BLM's program, contact the appropriate BLM administrative officer or Jim Shiffer in Washington, D.C., at FTS 268-5751 (commercial 202-208-5751). ■

—Elizabeth Rieben



Retrofitted CNG vehicle

Natural Gas- The Alternative of Choice

"Not just any substitute will do."

— Professor Enoch Durbin,
Princeton University *

Although we hear the term "energy crisis" a lot, the fact is, according to Princeton University Professor Enoch Durbin, this country has plenty of energy sources that could be used as alternatives to oil—they simply haven't been fully explored.

In order to get a better picture of the state of "alternative fuels," *Inside Track* talked to Professor Durbin, who is working to improve the performance of alternatives. Of natural gas, he says, "It is a simple solution that is cheap, abundant, friendly to the environment, and blessed with a high octane rating. Another advantage is that nearly all

of it is consumed during combustion, leaving little or no pollution. It is a super fuel which runs beautifully. Over 3/4 of a million cars run on it." He notes that although the technology currently exists, "there is still plenty of room for improvement to exploit its full potential."

Durbin has developed methods to double vehicle range with existing fuel tanks and is developing a natural gas fueling system to meet the California ultra clean standards.

Although the following alternatives have some of the advantages of natural gas, their disadvantages pose significant problems according to Durbin.

Hydrogen: "We don't have any hydrogen. It has to be made. It also ignites easily and requires 14 times the space as gasoline."

Methanol: "It is very toxic. A four-ounce swig can kill you. It is water soluble, so water supplies could be contaminated; it produces formic acid which corrodes engine parts; and it is costly."

Ethanol: "A product of corn, potatoes, sugar cane or wheat, production requires oil (to fuel the tractors, irrigation pumps, etc.). In an industrialized agricultural system such as ours, we consume more oil energy in making ethanol than we get. It also has a cold-start problem."

Electricity: "It doesn't exist. We have to make it from coal, oil, or nuclear sources. The principal problem is storage on the vehicle. To store the equivalent of 12 gallons of gasoline would require a 7,000-pound battery." ■

* Portions of this article have been excerpted from "Running on Gas," by Enoch Durbin, which appeared in *Princeton Alumni Weekly*, December 18, 1991.

BLM Team To Study Bright Ideas

Anyone who has participated in a BLM evaluation has first-hand experience with the many bright ideas and contributions of the BLM's work force. All too often, however, creative and innovative ideas never make it beyond the local area.

Andrew Strasfogel, a senior policy analyst who has participated in many evaluations, has witnessed this. "You come across a lot of creative solutions during the evaluation process," he says, "but there is really no easy way to communicate them to other BLM employees who might be able to apply them to their jobs. We write them up in evaluation reports, but they don't usually reach beyond the narrow readership of those reports." He recalls a land law clerk in a state office who processed numerous letters to

mining claimants. "She had developed an automated process that worked beautifully—it saved time and increased her efficiency. It could have widespread applications throughout the BLM."

Strasfogel says the BLM will be looking at ways to find these ideas, communicate them throughout the agency, and recognize employees who come up with them.

In order to do this, the BLM's field committee (made up of associate state directors) has approved a project charter for a bureauwide team to explore ways to collect and communicate these "good news" initiatives. It also will look at current evaluation reports to learn to what degree productive and innovative ideas are already being documented, survey BLM

employees for their views on how best to collect and communicate these ideas, and expand employee recognition.

The team plans to complete its recommendations to the field committee by March 1993. Team members will be asking offices throughout the BLM to participate in surveys and field testing of alternative evaluation methods.

For more information on the charter, contact project manager Dan Sokoloski, deputy assistant director for Energy and Mineral Resources at FTS 268-4201 (commercial 202-208-4201) or assistant project manager Andrew Strasfogel at FTS 268-7722. ■

Think of it as one big suggestion box wide open to everyone!

Panel Formed to Study Communications Fees on Public Lands

Tom Gorey
Public Affairs Specialist
Washington, D.C., Office

Interior Secretary Manuel Lujan and Agriculture Secretary Edward Madigan are forming an advisory committee to examine rental fees charged for communications use of federal lands.

The nine-member committee, formally called the Radio and Television Broadcast Use Advisory Committee, will advise the secretaries on appropriate methods of determining fair market value for radio and television broadcast uses of public lands. The use involves the placement of broadcast antennae on

lands managed by the Agriculture Department's Forest Service and the BLM.

The committee will also examine whether rental fees should be waived or reduced for broadcasters who serve the public interest. There would be no change in status for public broadcasting stations, which currently get waivers from rental fees.

The underlying issue is to make sure that the federal government gets fair market return from broadcasters' use of public lands. The question is, what is fair? Secretary Lujan said he was confident the report would help government officials resolve the issue in a way that would be fair to both federal taxpayers and broadcasters.

The committee will include representatives from the Forest Service; BLM; the broadcast industry and state, county and local government. An expert in methodologies for determining market values will also serve on the committee.

Congress suggested that the Forest Service and the BLM establish the committee when it passed the fiscal year 1992 Interior Department appropriations bill last November. The two federal agencies officially announced their intent to form the committee in the March 5 *Federal Register*. ■

Cooperators Help the BLM

"Bring Back the Natives"

Michelle Dawson Paladino
Public Affairs Specialist
Washington, D.C., Office

Bring Back the Natives, a program to restore native fish populations on the public lands, is off to a good start thanks to two private groups assisting the BLM.

Director Cy Jamison signed a cooperative agreement with the American Fisheries Society in December to enhance fisheries, particularly native trouts of the West along with riparian habitats and wildlife resources on BLM lands.

"This partnership is an outstanding example of private-public cooperation that benefits all Americans," Jamison said. "With the American Fisheries Society, we will conserve fishery resources and provide some great fishing opportunities for future generations."

The Society, founded in 1870, is a nonprofit scientific and educational organization made up of professionals in the fishery sciences.

Foundation Provides Challenge Grants

Last year, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation helped support *Bring Back the Natives* through a \$500,000 challenge grant offered to the BLM and Forest Service under a cooperative agreement. Existing projects involving native and cutthroat trout are located in California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming.

This year, the Foundation has asked that the BLM and Forest Service expand these efforts to salmon and steelhead trout in the Pacific Northwest through a \$1 million challenge grant proposal. Challenge grant funds become available only when additional, nonfederal money is matched on a one-for-one basis.

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Denver, CO 80225**

More Wildlife Partnerships Bring New Ideas, Opportunities to the BLM

For neotropical migratory birds, the BLM has entered into an international partnership with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and various other organizations. **PARTNERS IN FLIGHT—AVES DE LAS AMERICAS** will focus attention on declining populations of the many bird species that breed in North America and winter in Latin and South America. They include some of the most beautiful birds in the country, such as the indigo bunting, scarlet tanager, and many species of warblers. This effort is part of the BLM's Nongame Bird Habitat Conservation Strategy in *Fish and Wildlife 2000*.

For America's wild and beautiful birds, the BLM signed a cooperative agreement with the American Birding Association March 16 to enhance nongame bird inventories and monitoring on the public lands. ■



Woodland birds, such as this northern oriole, will benefit from several partnerships recently established by the BLM. (Photo courtesy of Cornell University.)



Allan Keith, President of the American Birding Association, and Director Cy Jamison sign an agreement to benefit America's wild birds.

New Biodiversity Coordinator Named

Director Jamison recently announced the appointment of Carole 'Kniffy' Hamilton as the BLM's biodiversity coordinator, a new position within the Division of Land and Renewable Resources in Washington, D.C.

"Biodiversity is fast becoming a crucial consideration in management for the 21st century," said Jamison. "And Kniffy offers just the right scientific, management and people skills to forge a comprehensive biodiversity program within the BLM."

Hamilton, an 11-year veteran of the BLM, previously served as area manager for the Lower Gila Resource Area in Arizona and prior to that as branch chief of biological resources in the Arizona State Office. She began her BLM career as a wildlife management biologist in Washington, D.C., where she supervised inventory, monitoring and training. Hamilton has a bachelor of science degree in biologi-

cal sciences from Colorado State University in Fort Collins.

The new position was established to initiate an ecologically sound biodiversity program within the BLM and to coordinate biodiversity matters with other public and private organizations, particularly at the national level. Hamilton will also advise the director and other BLM managers on biodiversity and sustainable development issues.

"Biodiversity is not so much an issue as an approach to management into the 21st century." — Cy Jamison

The term "biodiversity" refers to the variety of life and its processes and includes the variety of living organisms, the genetic differences among them and the communities and ecosystems in which they occur. "This definition includes humans," Hamilton



Carole "Kniffy" Hamilton

notes. "A fact some people forget." She adds that biodiversity issues cut across many varied BLM programs, including renewable resources, lands and realty, planning, and energy and minerals.

Hamilton can be reached at FTS 268-6511 (Commercial 202-208-6511), Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Mail Stop 3653, 1849 C Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20240. ■

Federal Agencies, Boy Scouts Join Forces for the Environment

The BLM recently joined six other outdoor-focused federal agencies and the Boy Scouts of America to kick off a new program designed to respond to increasing demands for trained and knowledgeable conservation volunteers. Called TRAIL Boss (Teaching Resource and Individual Leadership), the program teaches adults skills to develop and conduct conservation projects anywhere in the country.

These specially trained leaders, or TRAIL Bosses, will then direct

the efforts of volunteers—members of youth and outdoor-oriented organiza-



Ben Love, chief scout executive, Boy Scouts of America, looks on while BLM Deputy Director Dean Stepanek adds the BLM to the TRAIL Boss program.

tions such as the Boy Scouts of America—in a variety of conservation projects such as maintaining hiking trails, restoring riparian areas, improving fish spawning areas or constructing nest boxes.

The program benefits from the combined expertise of the BLM, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Environmental Protection Agency, Fish and Wildlife Service, Forest Service, National Park Service and Soil Conservation Service, with the resources of youth organizations like the Boy Scouts of America.

For more information, contact Doug Blankenship, BLM volunteer coordinator, at FTS 268-5261 (Commercial 202-208-5261). ■

BLM People



Rod Harris, Elko district manager, received the Public Lands Foundation's Outstanding Land Professional Award for 1991, and also

was named 1991 Water Conservationist of the Year by the Nevada Wildlife Federation. He was recognized for his outstanding efforts on the Marys River land exchange. The Federation noted that his leadership in the exchange will benefit wildlife resources.



Richard R. "Butch" Olendorff, Boise, Idaho district, recently received the prestigious President's Award from the Raptor

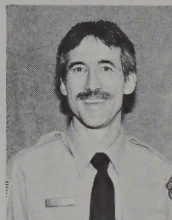
Research Foundation, an international organization dedicated to raptor research, education, and conservation. Olendorff is only the fourth person to receive the coveted plaque and testimonial. In addition to being a charter member of the Foundation, Olendorff has served over the years as its president, secretary, and editor of *The Journal of Raptor Research*.



Paula Perletti, Shoshone, Idaho, district recreation planner, recently received the BLM's "Volunteer for the Public Lands"

national award for her efforts in supervising and directing volunteer cave inventory efforts of the Magic Valley Grotto. Perletti has been involved with the group since 1989, and the Grotto members have contrib-

uted over 4,000 hours of labor in the area of cave exploration, survey, inventory and mapping.



Mark Buckbee, Roseburg, Oregon, district chief of the Branch of Technical Support, has been selected as the National Forestry

Recreation Association's (NFRA) co-winner of the 10th annual Ranger of the Year Award. The award was presented at NFRA's 44th annual convention in Chandler, Ariz., on April 3.



Rick Athearn, Colorado State Office historian, authored the historical study, *A Forgotten Kingdom: The Spanish Frontier in Colorado, 1540-*

1821, which was recognized by the American Library Association as one of 20 outstanding government works, or "notable documents," for 1991. The document was so popular that it went out of print within 6 months of publication. A second edition will be printed for the 1992 Quincentennial. Athearn joined the BLM in 1975 as a historian at the Denver Service Center. He later moved to the Colorado State Office as state historian, the first such position in the BLM. He started the BLM's Cultural Resources Series in 1976 and has since published 32 volumes of professional archaeological and historical studies, including several he wrote.

The BLM survey team of **Robin Mathews, Cheryl Baier, Scott Peronto, Clyde King, and Scott Twenhofel** made history when they placed the first Arizona Desert Wilderness Area commemorative survey monument in the Muggins Mountains Wilderness Area in the Yuma District. Facing dangers such as unexploded bombs, low level radiation, rattlesnakes, mountain lions and Bengal tigers, they completed the border survey of nearly 18 miles in the rugged area. (*Bengal tigers?* The team reports that owners of land bordering the area keep them as pets.) Other dangers were from the U.S. Army's Yuma Proving Ground to the North. ■



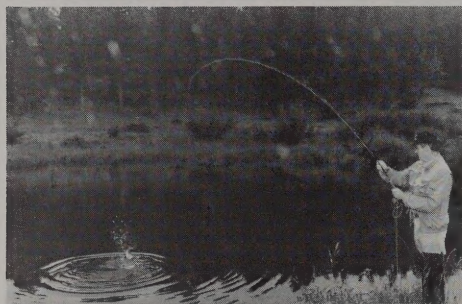
Cadastral Survey Team Leader **Robin Mathews** (left) and Yuma District Manager **Herman Kast** display the brass monument cap specially cast for the BLM in Madison, Wisconsin.

Editor's note: This section is compiled from information readily available to the editor before press time. Submissions are encouraged and will be printed based on available space. Please include name and phone number with all correspondence. Photographs should be 5 x 7 inches, black and white, and labeled on the back.

BLM News Briefs

First Family For Fishing

President and Mrs. Bush will serve as Chairfamily for National Fishing Week, scheduled for June 1 - 7 this year. Plans are for the The First Family to accompany Secretary Lujan to various celebrations of the event that week throughout the country. ■



President Bush, an avid fisherman, will be joined by wife Barbara, to chair National Fishing Week, June 1 - 7 this year.

Photo credit: David Valdez, The White House

More Uses for Christmas Trees:

Nevada BLM and Volunteers Team up to Control Erosion

Bob Sherwood of BLM's Nevada Battle Mountain District reports on yet another use for discarded Christmas trees (see January-February 1992 issue for related story). An erosion control project completed Feb. 1 by district volunteers, Boy Scout Troop 250 and the Lander County Rod and Gun Club



Boy Scouts haul trees to gullies where they will help control erosion.

put about 870 discarded trees to good use. They were placed in gullies and stream channels of a critical riparian area about 40 miles south of Battle Mountain. The 125-acre site burned in July 1991, increasing erosion potential. The trees will collect silt, slow runoff, help rebuild stream channels, and serve as cover for native wildlife. ■

RightRider Encourages Responsible Riding

Hikers, mountain bikers, and equestrians should find trails on BLM lands more enjoyable this summer thanks to *RightRider*, a new off-highway vehicle responsibility campaign. The program is designed to encourage and reinforce positive riding behavior and stewardship of public lands. It was created through a memorandum of understanding signed by the BLM and the Motorcycle Industry Council in November. ■



Director Cy Jamison and Senior Vice President of the Motorcycle Industry Council, Melvin Stahl, promote the *RightRider* rider responsibility campaign on BLM lands.

Special Permits Make Special Races Possible

Blustery winds and blowing sand did not dampen the spirit of the 250 racers and hundreds of cheering spectators at the recent 4th Annual Blaisdell Blow-out Mountain Bike Race in BLM's Yuma District. The colorfully clad racers thundered across the 5.2-mile boulder-strewn race course in the Colorado Desert in the year's first of a seven-race Mountain



An annual mountain bike race in BLM-Arizona's Yuma District will help raise funds for the local Boys and Girls Clubs.

Bike Association of Arizona championship race season.

Race organizers donate all proceeds from the race to the Boys and Girls Clubs of Yuma to help support their year-round after school activities. This year's donation, the largest to date, was \$4,000.

Yuma Resource Area has supported the Blaisdell Blow-out since its inception 4 years ago through BLM's Special Recreation Use Permit program. "We feel that this is a good example of BLM's multiple use policy," said Yuma Resource Area Manager Mike Taylor. "It lets people enjoy recreation for one day out of the year while offering opportunities for other uses the rest of the year." ■

Logging Update

The Supreme Court recently upheld a now-expired 1989 law which temporarily shielded federal timber sales from legal challenges. The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals struck down the law in 1990 saying it violated the constitutionally required separation of powers by passing a law that interfered with the authority of the courts to decide environmental cases. The ruling reaffirms Congress' authority to enact legislation dealing with the timber supply crisis.

Other rulings include two recent injunctions issued by the Ninth Circuit and Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals which have virtually halted all BLM timber sales in forests this spring. BLM attorneys are reviewing the orders to determine further action. ■

Habitat Partnership Program Helps Prevent Private Property Damage

Roger Alexander
Environmental Protection Specialist and
Public Affairs Officer
Montrose District, Colorado

Winter in Colorado can mean different things to different people—from skiing and sledding to shoveling snow and scraping windshields. But to many farmers and ranchers, it can mean damage to their fences and the loss of valuable hay to the deer, elk, and antelope trying to survive.

In a cooperative effort to avoid private property damage claims caused by elk, deer and antelope, the Colorado Division of Wildlife, the Forest Service, the BLM and private landowners formed a Habitat Partnership Program (HPP). The goal of the HPP is to reduce the need for damage compensation by enhancing federal and state administered wildlife habitat, fencing private lands, and controlling big game populations with special hunts.

Two areas were selected to be prototypes for the HPP in 1991, North Fork Valley and Middle Park. Both support large populations of deer and elk and generate substantial numbers of big game damage claims.

With a \$42,000 donation from the Colorado Division of Wildlife, the North Fork steering committee got the HPP effort off the ground with two major projects—an aerial application of ammonium nitrate fertilizer to increase big game forage production on 220 acres of public rangelands in the Paonia area and a 74-acre prescribed burn to reduce brush overstory in the Green Mountain area.

James Sazama, supervisory range conservationist for the Uncompahgre

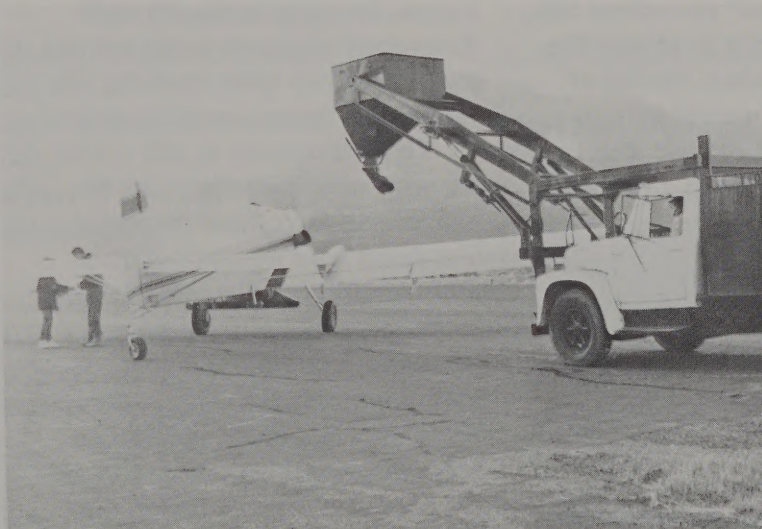


BLM fire crews ignite a prescribed burn in the Green Mountain area, after which the land was reseeded with a mixture of palatable native grasses, forbs, and shrubs to increase habitat diversity and big game forage production.

Basin Resource Area and the BLM's representative on the North Fork HPP committee, believes that "the HPP exemplifies the type of partnership that can be developed to help solve the increasingly complex issues confronting land managers in the 1990's."

While it is still too early to tell if the HPP will provide a long-term

solution to the problem of big game damage to private property, the initial successes of the North Fork and Middle Park prototype areas have been encouraging. Four additional HPP areas were initiated this year, and there are plans to eventually expand the program to provide statewide coverage. ■



Fertilizer is loaded onto a spray plane at Paonia Airport. It will be used to increase big game forage production on public rangelands.

The BLM Helps Hollywood Set the Scene

Mother Nature has sculpted some of the most fabulous award-winning movie sets ever crafted. Many of these are found on public lands managed by the BLM. Motion picture companies and still photographers must apply for a permit in advance to film on BLM lands. After sites have been selected, film makers must visit the specific BLM resource area or district office to apply for a film permit.

SPACE . . . The Final Frontier

Captain Jean-Luc Picard of the U.S.S. ENTERPRISE and Ensign Wil Crusher have crash-landed on a desolate, sun-scorched planet at the edge of the universe. They are unable to contact the ENTERPRISE due to the intense electromagnetic interference in the planet's atmosphere. With little food and no water, their chance of survival appears bleak indeed.

These are the continuing voyages of the STARSHIP ENTERPRISE!

For this particular voyage, the cast and crew of *Star Trek: The Next Generation* "beamed" themselves into the heart of the BLM's El Mirage Dry Lake Bed. The desolate, sun-baked location was ideal—except for an occasional all-terrain vehicle that zoomed across the camera's view.



Many areas of BLM public lands offer ready-made scenery for film makers.

Paramount Studios was pleased with the successful day of shooting. Even Mother Nature followed her cue, providing intense sunlight and brisk winds enhancing the illusion of desperation for the stranded star travelers on a desolate planet in another galaxy.

With more than a hundred film permits authorized in the last few years, El Mirage's Dry Lake location



Quiet on the set! The film crew adjusts last-minute light, sound and camera cues before shooting the next scene as Captain Jean-Luc Picard, aka Patrick Stewart, rehearses his lines.

Photo by Doran Sanchez

continues its popularity with the film industry for shooting movies, television shows, and commercials. For decades, moviemakers have been attracted to many areas of the California Desert that appear as bleak, lifeless, forgotten lands with sand dunes stretching as far as the eye can see or lush palm oases sparkling like emeralds in the sun-drenched desert.

The film industry is only one of the many constituencies to use the public lands throughout the desert. The desert hosts hundreds of thousands of visitors to the public lands every year seeking 20th century adventure, recreation and even solitude. From majestic vistas in the Santa Rosa Mountains and East Mojave National Scenic Area, to the sea of sand at Imperial Dunes, recreationists and travelers alike will continue to marvel at the splendors of

the California desert for generations to come — even 25th century "trekkers." ■

—Doran Sanchez
California Desert District

The BLM Provides Larger than Life Set for *Thelma and Louise*

As the heroines in the 1991 blockbuster movie *Thelma and Louise* make their mad trek south to Mexico, some of the BLM's most spectacular vistas and eerie land configurations hauntingly parade before the movie audience. The critically acclaimed movie was filmed in a number of exciting locations on BLM lands in Wyoming, Utah and Nevada.

Just as the "set" in *Star Trek* intensifies the plight of the Captain and his "away team," the desolate sets in *Thelma and Louise* add to the characters' entrapment—open expanse that only leads to a dead end!

Time Magazine quotes Barbara Bunker, a professor of psychology at Buffalo New York's State University: "...the drama is supposed to make things larger than life so you get the point."

With BLM's dramatic "larger than life" scenery as a backdrop, the movie does make its point. ■

—Michelle Dawson Paladino

Ten Ton Tubby Makes a Scene

A 10-ton, 45-foot-tall pink pig was created by Filmtrex, Inc., for use in an American Honda Corporation commercial recently filmed on BLM lands in California's Mojave Desert.

continued on pg. 16

TRACKING PERSONNEL

ALASKA

New BLM Employees

Kathy Liska, Outdoor Rec. Plnr., Anchorage DO
Michelle Grimm, Pos. Class. Spec., SO
Michael Billbe, BLM Ranger, Kobuk DO
Edwin Zaidlicz, Outdoor Rec. Plnr., Anchorage DO

Reassignments/Promotions

Romaine Clark, Supv. Land Law Ex., SO
David Curry, Supv. Forestry Tech., AK Fire Svc
Beverly Fronterhouse, Comp. Spec., AK Fire Svc
Mark Jones, Supv. Forestry Tech., AK Fire Svc
Evelyn Marciniak, Comp. Spec., SO
George Oviatt, Supv. Land Surv., SO
Deborah Blank, Envir. Prot. Spec. to Botanist, SO
William Diel, Geologist, SO

Separations

Sarah Watson, Wildlife Biol., Steese/White Mountain DO

ARIZONA

Reassignments/Promotions

Kenneth Armstrong, BLM Ranger to District Ranger, AZ Strip DO
Paul Sawyer, Wildlife Mgmt. Biol., Utah to Wildlife Trng. Coord., PTC
Noel Granzow, Mgmt. Anal., SO to PTC

CALIFORNIA

Reassignments/Promotions

John Ellington, Comp. Spec., Calif. Desert DO
Brian Mikkelson, Land Surveyor, SO
Thomas Tauchus, Supv. Land Surv., Ridgecrest RA
Patricia Korp, Mgmt. Anal., WO to Assoc. DM, Bakersfield DO

Richard Johnson, Range Tech., Bakersfield DO
Cindy Lescallent, BLM Ranger, Clear Lake to Arcata RA
Scott Lieurance, Forester, OR Alturas RA

Separations

Simotha Vickers, Admin. Officer, Bakersfield DO
Leslie Rice, Community Plnr., Calif. Desert DO

COLORADO

New BLM Employees

Paul Peterson, Civil Engr., SO

Reassignments/Promotions

Michael Gaylord, Envir. Prot. Spec. to Haz. Mat. Coord., Canon City DO
Robert Schneider, Outdoor Rec. Plnr., WO to Assoc DM, Craig DO

Retirements

Francis Young, Area Manger, Northeast RA

Separations

Paul Koretko, Communications Spec., SO

IDAHO

New BLM Employees

Shelley Cooper, Civil Engr., Boise DO
Jude Trapani, Fishery Biol., Salmon DO
Monty White, BLM Ranger, Shoshone DO

Reassignments/Promotions

Jack LaRocco, Range Con., SO to Wildlife Biol., Boise DO
William Reimers, Range Con. to Supv. Range Con., Boise DO
John Ash, Range Con. to Nat. Res. Spec., Boise DO
Jeff Lee, Land Surv. to Geodesist, SO
Michael Stimak, Forest Tech. to

Forester, Coeur d'Alene DO
A. Daniel Hughes, Criminal Invest., SO
Jonathan Kamler, Outdoor Rec. Plnr., Alaska to Salmon DO

Separations

Larry Dill, Criminal Invest.

MONTANA

Reassignments/Promotions

Michael Browne, Hydrol. to Phy. Sci., Butte DO
Dex Hight, Hydrol. to Phy. Sci., Miles City DO

Retirements

Wallace Elliot, Supv. Range Con., Havre RA
Roy Johnson, Appraiser, SO
Larry Koch, Land Law Exam., SO
Roy Lembke, Nat. Res. Spec., Havre RA

Separations

Paul Martin, Outdoor Rec. Plnr., Headwaters RA

NEW MEXICO

New BLM Employees

Roger Brandon, Comp. Spec., Tulsa DO
Gary Gourley, Petro. Engr., Roswell DO
Paul McGoff, Comp. Spec., Tulsa DO
Roger Scott, Pub. Affairs Spec., SO
Patricia Hutchings, Petro. Engr. Tech., Carlsbad RA
Scott Ludwig, Hydrol. Tech., Las Cruces DO
Albert Avey, BLM Ranger, Farmington RA
Charles Mantei, Empl. Dev. Spec., SO

Reassignments/Promotions

Cruz Garcia, Electron. Tech. to

continued

Telecomm. Spec., SO
Robert Bewley, Geographer to Supv. Geographer, SO
Everett Powers Jr., Pub. Affairs Spec., Oregon to Supv. Multi-Res. Spec., Carlsbad RA
Willis Bird Jr., Supv. Nat. Res. Spec. to Wildlife Biol., Las Cruces DO
Laird McIntosh, Supv. Comp. Spec. to Botanist, Caballo RA
Homer Saenz, Petro. Eng. Tech., Utah to Petro. Eng. Tech., Carlsbad RA
Magdalene Bills, Nat. Gas Reg. Spec. to Vol. Coord., Roswell DO
Elizabeth Hummer, Nat. Res. Spec. to Envir. Prot. Spec., Farmington RA
Paul Brown, Prog. Anal., WO to Prog. Anal., SO
Robert Alexander, Area Mngr., Caballo RA to Range Con., SO
John O. Singlaub, Area Mngr., Colorado to Lawnet Sys. Coord., SO
William Harrell, Electron. Tech., SO to Telecom. Spec., Las Cruces DO
Patricia Phipps, Comp. Spec., Tulsa DO
Louis Baca, Comp. Spec., to Supv. Comp. Spec., SO
Barbara Vail, Mgmt. Anal., SO
Vickie Daniels, Envir. Sci., WY to Geol., Taos RA

Retirements

Katherine Robinson, Phy. Sci. Tech., Tulsa DO

Separations

Frank Martin, Envir. Eng., Oklahoma RA
Anne Jeffrey, Audio Vis. Prod. Spec., SO

See Also—In Memory

NEVADA

New BLM Employees

George Deverse, Geol., Las Vegas DO
Richard Jones, Land Surv., SO

Reassignments/Promotions

Bruce Dawson, Prog. Anal., WO to Spec. Asst. to SD, SO
Thomas Elledge, Comp. Prog. Anal., WO to Comp. Prog., SO
Darrell Winter, Realty Spec., Alaska to Realty Spec., Ely DO

See Also—In Memory

OREGON

New BLM Employees

Daniel Crannell, Wildlife Biol., Eugene DO
James Burby, Civil Engr., SO
Alex Lenard, Outdoor Recr. Plnr., Coos Bay DO

Reassignments/Promotions

Donald Smith, Asst. DM, Prineville DO
Russell Holmes, Botanist, Roseburg DO
John Jones, Forestry Tech., Roseburg DO
Terry Nicholes, Admin. Ofcr., SO
Sandra Guches, Safety and Occu. Health Mgr., SO
Angel Dawson, Archeologist, Vale DO
Richard Heaney, Nat. Res. Spec., Coos Bay DO
Gregg Nelson, Nat. Res. Spec., Coos Bay DO
Chris Hamilton, Nat. Res. Spec., Coos Bay DO
James Wilkinson, Telecomm. Spec., Coos Bay DO
Myrna Davis, Oper. Coord., SO
Larry Zowada, Forester, Medford DO
Cynthia Yee, Comp. Spec., SO
Richard Jones, Admin. Ofcr., Salem DO
Scott Siegfried, Hydrologist, Roseburg DO
John Caruso, Forester, Salem DO
Steven Anderson, Supv. Outdoor Rec. Plnr., Hines DO
Dennis Saub, Empl. Rel. Spec., SO
Boyd Peterson, Supv. Land Surv., Coos Bay DO

Eric Stone, Jr., Prog. Anal., SO
Kathy Wall, Nat. Res. Spec., Coos Bay DO
Joseph Aitken, Realty Spec., Coos Bay DO
Robert Hoffmeister, Pub. Affairs Spec., Coos Bay DO

Retirements

Wilbert Bright, Supv. Nat. Res. Spec., Prineville DO
Carolyn Choate, Admin. Ofcr., Prineville DO
James Clason, Associate DM, Medford DO
Richard Gilbert, Appraiser, SO
Robert Hansen, Equip. Mechanic, Roseburg DO
Sharon Killman, Support Svcs. Spec., Salem DO
William Thompson, Forester, Salem DO
Lloyd Geraths, Forestry Tech., Coos Bay DO
Joshua Warburton, Nat. Res. Spec., SO

Separations

Frederic Weech, Officer Services Manager, SO
Robert Shuffield, Jr., Forester, Medford DO to Dept. of the Army

UTAH

New BLM Employees

Scott Belfit, Wildlife Biol., SO

Reassignments/Promotions

Randy Massey, Land Law Exam., SO
Rodney Schipper, Res. Prot. Spec., Cedar City DO
Michael Noel, Envir. Spec., Cedar City DO
Gina Pack, Geologist, Cedar City DO
Ferrel Reynolds, Surv. Tech., SO
Gary Wieser, Resource Mgr., Salt Lake DO
Jack Johnson, Petro. Engr Tech., Moab DO
Pamela Stuart, Envir. and Safety Spec., Moab DO

Bertis Rodgers, Special Asst. to SD, SO
 Penelope Smalley, Area Mgr., Moab DO
 Patricia Ramsterrer, Inspect. and Enforce. Coord., SO
 Richard McClure, Nat. Res. Prot. Spec., Moab DO
 Jeanine Simmons, Records Admin., SO
 Joy Weking, Supv. Realty Spec., Vernal DO
 Vearl Christiansen, Jr., Nat. Res. Spec., Richfield DO

WYOMING

New BLM Employees

Michael Miller, Criminal Invest., SO
 Linda Myers, Range Con., Rawlins DO
 John Pecor, Petro. Engr., Rock Springs DO
 Stanley Poston, Criminal Invest., SO
 Kip Purinton, Petro. Engr., Rawlins DO

Reassignments/Promotions

Daniel Arvizo, Range Con., WO to SO
 David Atkins, Area Mgr. to Outdoor Rec. Plnr., Worland DO
 Marian Atkins, Supv. Land Law Exam., Idaho to Wildlife Biol., Worland DO
 Ervin Podrabinsky, Mining Engr., NRET to Rock Springs DO

Separations

Christopher Butler, Hydrologist, Rock Springs DO
 Thomas Clayson, Nat. Res. Spec., Casper DO
 James Hastings, Supv. Appraiser, SO
 Diana Moore, EEO Asst., SO

WASHINGTON OFFICE

New BLM Employees

Richard Whitley, Prog. Anal., Div. of Budget

Frank Bruno, Mining Law Spec., Div. of Min. Law & Salable Mnrls.
 Jennifer Callan, Pub. Affairs Spec.

Separations

John Wilson, Dir. BIFC, Boise, Idaho
 John Craynon, Min. Engr., Div. of Sol. Mnrls. Ops.
 Donna Lance, Budget Anal., Div. of Budget

SERVICE CENTER

New BLM Employees

Leo Atencio, Comp. Prgm. Anal., Div. of Syst. Ops.
 Betty Buxton, Chief, Fin. Sys. Staff, Div. of Finance
 Aileen China, Contract Spec., Div. of Admin. Svcs.
 Melissa Lewis-Collins, Comp. Prgm. Anal., Div. of Syst. Ops.
 Kim Nguyen, Elect. Eng., Div. of Tech. Svcs.

Reassignments/Promotions

Barbara Benz, Sys. Impl. Spec. to Data Anal., Div. of Project Mgmt.
 Cindy McCauley, Mgmt. Anal. to Data Anal., Div. of Project Mgmt.
 Kathy Highly, Civil Eng., Utah to Div. of Tech. Svcs.
 Linda Jones, Sys. Impl. Spec. to Data Anal., Div. of Project Mgmt.
 Louise Precosky, Sys. Impl. Spec. to Data Anal., Div. of Project Mgmt.
 Melanie Rhinehart, Prg. Anal., ALMRS to Data Admin., Div. of Project Mgmt.
 James Woods, Land Surv., NM to Div. of Project Mgmt.

Retirements

Kimball Roddy, Struct. Engr., Div. of Tech. Svcs.

Separations

Kay Thomas, Comp. Prg. Anal., Div. of Syst. Ops.

BOISE INTERAGENCY FIRE CENTER

New BLM Employees

Gary Youngquist, Supv. Training Spec.

Reassignments/Promotions

Henry Baldwin, Equipment Spec.
 Jeffrey Bass, Nat'l Aviation Oper. & Retardant Spec.
 Paul Namun, Supv. Equipment Spec.
 Annetta Pottratz, Comp. Prog.
 Woodrow Smith, Communications Tech.
 Robert Stroud, Equipment Spec.
 William Ward, Admin. Ofcr.

Retirements

John Black, Training Ctr. Admin.

In Memory

Dean Carlson, 56, Supervisory Land Law Examiner, Albuquerque District Office, New Mexico, died Jan. 1. She had worked for the BLM since 1976.

George T. High, Jr., 66, Compliance Investigator, Nevada State Office Law Enforcement, died Nov. 27. His federal career began in 1972 with the Dept. of Agriculture.

David L. Mark, 56, Reclamation and Compliance Specialist, (Geologist) Tonopah Resource Area, Nevada, died Dec. 3. His federal career began with the Office of Surface Mining in 1983. He joined the BLM in 1990.

These BLM employees will be greatly missed by colleagues and friends.

BLM Recognizes Unique Contributions With Public Spirit Awards

Tess Bennington

Assistant Volunteer Coordinator
Washington, D.C., Office

The Partners in the Public Spirit Award honors people from the private sector who make significant contributions to the public lands. Up to six awards are presented by the BLM each year to individuals, groups or corporations that contribute to management of rangelands, minerals, forestry, wildlife, recreation, wilderness or cultural resources. Candidate projects are judged on how they enhance the public lands or expand opportunities on public lands and the degree of commitment or personal effort involved. Other important criteria include innovation and the extent to which the project or activity can be replicated.

Significant contributions in 1991 included innovative grazing techniques designed to improve range conditions introduced by The Matador Cattle Company in Montana and the Duane Phelps family of Colorado.

Desert Adventures, a guided vehicle excursion company, provided volunteer service and monetary support for public lands in California; and Homestake Mining Company of California implemented programs to protect and enhance threatened wildlife populations. Monsanto Chemicals Company restored over 1,200 acres disturbed by phosphate mining in Idaho, doubling wildlife populations in the area.

In addition, Shell Western E&P, Inc., a Colorado-based company, was recognized for its work in preserving the environment and for the discovery and preservation of cultural artifacts dating to about 700 A.D. .

Nominations Accepted

Any person or organization may make a nomination for the 1992 awards. For more information, contact



The Phelps family received a 1991 Partners in the Public Spirit Award for improving range conditions on the public lands in Colorado. Left - right are BLM's Colorado Deputy State Director Gary McVicker with Duane, Donna and Brad Phelps.

Doug Blankenship in Washington, D.C., at FTS 268-5261 (Commercial 202-208-5261). ■



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

Hollywood Set

con't. from pg. 12

Extensive media coverage caught the attention of the *Guinness Book of World Records*, which is considering it for the 1992 edition. Spots Films, which obtained the BLM permit, was inundated with requests from potential "adopters" once filming was completed. After receiving one from a naval weapons center, which wanted to use the pig for target practice, Honda ordered it humanely dismantled. ■

—Mike Hogan,
Ridgecrest Resource Area

Ten-Ton Tubby



Photo courtesy of Don Thrift, The Daily Independent, Ridgecrest, California

BLM-Idaho Set for T.V. Ad

Look for a BLM background in a television commercial for Anheuser Busch filmed recently in BLM's Bruneau Resource Area in Idaho. About 40 people and 35 horses were on the scene along the Bruneau River and C. J. Strike Reservoir. Boise District Ranger Lee Kliman and Area Recreation and Wilderness Specialist Frank Jenks kept a watchful eye on the filming by California's HSI Productions. ■